

***REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING***

**January 7, 2008**

**6:00 P.M.**

Mayor Ronnie Torres called the Regular Meeting of the Belen City Council to order at 6:00 P.M.  
Roll call taken by Sally G. Garley, City Manager.

***PRESENT:***

Ronnie Torres, Mayor  
David Lopez, Councilor  
Jeff Trembly, Councilor  
Rudy Jaramillo, Councilor  
Terese Ulivarri, Mayor Pro-Tem

***CITY STAFF:***

Sally G. Garley, City Manager  
Audrey Torres, Procurement Specialist  
Mike Chavez, Police Chief  
Andrew DiCamillo, P/Z Director  
Julie Baca, Community Development Director  
Brenda Gurule, Recreation Department Director

***OTHERS:***

Norman McDonald, P.A., City Attorney  
Jackie Schlotfeldt, VCNB  
Gilbert Tabet, Circle T  
Loretta Tollefson, MRCOG  
Jerah R. Cordova, Our Tomorrow  
Claudette Riley, GBEDC  
CJ Vissar, Sunrise Bluffs  
Dianne Mattson, Our Tomorrow

***PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:***

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked Gilbert Tabet to lead the pledge of allegiance.

***APPROVAL OF AGENDA:***

Mayor Ronnie Torres requested approval of tonight's agenda with the amendment to table Item #8 on the action items. Councilor Rudy Jaramillo so moved to approve as amended. Councilor Jeff Trembly seconds the motion, motion carried.

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES:***

***Regular Meting: December 17, 2007***

Mayor Ronnie Torres requested approval of the minutes for December 17, 2007. Mayor Pro-Tem Terese Ulivarri requested that on page 2 under item 3, citizens petition, include the gentleman from BNSF's full name and with that correction she so moved to approve the minutes of December 17, 2007. Mayor Pro-Tem Rudy Jaramillo second the motion, motion carried.

***CITIZENS PETITIONS:***

Mayor Torres read the next agenda item citizen petitions, and asked if there were any citizen petitions:

Claudette Riley gave a brief update on the Bugg light display, back in October she submitted a proposal when the general public was notified that the light display, which was previously located on Pennsylvania Ave, in Albuquerque, then moved to Traditions was now looking for a new home. With that and through the efforts of herself, the Mayor, Mr. Paul Baca and the Belen Chamber of Commerce we thought of what we could do, as a City, to bring it to Belen. We are trying to create the City as a holiday destination point working off of our City's name "Belen". Several proposals were submitted and we have had a couple of meetings with them and the Bugg family. On January 4, which was Friday we received the following letter: Mayor Torres asked Claudette to read the letter aloud for the benefit of the public. A copy of the letter is attached hereto and made an integral part of these minutes by reference.

After the letter was read aloud, Mayor Torres asked if there were any questions. Mayor Pro-Tem Terese Ulivarri asked who the two finalists were and who was eliminated. Claudette advised that there were three finalists during the meeting of the 26<sup>th</sup>. The owners of the Bugg light display and the Bugg family all did a site visit to Belen, Madrid and Menaul High School of Albuquerque. Madrid has been eliminated and now it is between the City of Belen and Menaul High School.

Mayor Torres asked if there were any other citizen petitions, none were presented at this time.

***RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEE OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER: Mayor Pro-Tem Terese Ulivarri***

Mayor Ronnie Torres read the next agenda item in reference to recognition of employee of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter as presented by Mayor Pro-Tem Terese Ulivarri who asked Brenda Gurule, Recreation Director, to stand and be recognized by the public as employee of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Mayor Pro Tem Terese Ulivarri read a letter aloud, a copy of which is attached hereto and made an integral part of these minutes by reference. Mayor Pro-Tem Terese Ulivarri added that Brenda is working on festivals all year long. There is the Miracle on Main Street, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Easter and all other festivals-Good Job.

***STATUS OF THE MOBILITY PLAN UPDATE: Loretta Tollefson, MRCOG***

Mayor Ronnie Torres read the next agenda item in reference to a presentation on the Status of the Mobility Plan Update as presented by Loretta Tollefson, MRCOG who handed out a prepared pamphlet of which most of her presentation was from. A copy of the presentation is attached hereto and made part of these minutes by reference. She advised she had come late last summer and advised the City that the mobility plan was being updated and in September through mid November they held nine workshops around the county for public input on the mobility plan. The meetings were held in Belen, Jarales, Los Chavez, Tome Adelino, Highland Meadows, Meadow Lake, Peralta and Los Lunas. There were a lot of comments received which were compiled and developed a staff recommendation to respond to that input. The handout is a summary of the input and the recommendations. This went to the steering committee in early December and they authorized us to go forward and prepare a draft for public review sometime this spring. She is in the process of putting that document together.

The comments were far reaching there were fifteen different topics and they covered everything from agricultural resources, traffic and planning issues along with some specific safety issues. A few things that stood out were impact fees that should be uniform across the county and municipalities.

It was also clear from Los Chavez not to build another rail station between Los Lunas and Belen. There was also discussion on the bridges and interchanges and river crossings. There was discussion to remove the bridge that was planned in the vicinity of Square Deal Road, to just take that off the map, Rancho Cielo is telling them they don't need it Los Chavez has made it really clear they don't want it so to make everyone happy it is off. There are also a lot of things that were proposed and those are in the pamphlet.

There is proposed a corridor along the interstate from South Belen Interchange North to the Isleta Pueblo interchange as an interstate access corridor to look at where we could conceivably put a new interchange or multiple interchanges. Rancho Cielo is saying they would like another interchange they don't know specifically where, they are not interested in liking it across even to 314, but the DOT and FHWA are becoming concerned that we are looking at interchanges one a time scenario and they want us to look at the whole picture and identify potential interchanges for the next fifty years. At this time Loretta asked for questions.

Mayor Torres asked if there were any questions from the Council. Mayor Pro-Tem Terese Ulivarri said she had a comment, Loretta has had to put a lot of time and effort into these workshops that were held throughout the county and knows she was bombarded everywhere she went and kind of put people at ease, listened to their concerns, and established a good rapport with everyone she has met, and a lot of comments have been made to that effect.

Apparently funds ran out for this study and it was picked up by the MRCOG. Loretta Tollefson advised that was correct, we are doing this now out of the rural transportation planning organization funds. Once public meetings are scheduled she will come back and inform the Council on those meetings.

### ***ACTION ITEMS:***

#### ***APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MID-REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS OF NEW MEXICO, A REGIONAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION AND THE CITY OF BELEN A MUNICIPALITY: Andrew DiCamillo, Planning and Zoning Director***

Mayor Ronnie Torres read the next agenda item in reference to approval of memorandum of agreement between the Mid-Region Council of Governments of New Mexico, a regional planning organization and the City of Belen a municipality as presented by Andrew DiCamillo, Planning and Zoning Director who advised that there was a Memorandum of Agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto and made an integral part of these minutes by reference, in the packed. This agreement is between the Mid Region Council of Governments (MRCOG) and the City of Belen basically to pay a portion of the 2008 ortho aerial photography flyover that will be conducted August and September of this year. The GIS grant that the City received from USDA will cover the \$2,500 we are pledging towards the 2008 flyover. This is in an effort, really, as a kind of a good faith, with the MRCOG so that we can receive and utilize that information. In the past MRCOG has always asked other jurisdictions to put in their portion or at least of some portion of the cost for the flyover. As a penalty for not putting in they withhold information so this small portion pledged will get us in the door and assure us getting information in a timely manner.

The maps that are provided, attached to the MOA, are an example of what MRCOG has graciously allowed us to have of the 2006 flyover and it has been an asset to our department. The word is out and we have constituents coming in on a daily basis asking to look at their lot configuration, we are able to advise them what they need from the computer screen in the office.

Mayor Torres asked if there were any questions or comments if none he so entertains a motion. Mayor Pro-Tem Terese Ulivarri moved to approve as presented. Councilor David Lopez seconds the motion, motion carried.

#### ***RECOMMENDATION TO AWARD BID FOR LIBRARY COFFEE SHOP: Sally G. Garley, City Manager***

Mayor Ronnie Torres read the next agenda item in reference to recommendation to award bid for Library Coffee Shop as presented by Sally G. Garley, City Manager who advised it was advertised two different times. The first time no proposals were received, the second time we received one which the recommendation is to award the proposal to Hecho A Mano Coffee House and Imports. Beverly McFarland, Library Director, has reviewed the proposal, as well as Audrey the Procurement Specialist. Mayor Torres asked if there were any questions or comments, if none he so entertains a motion. Councilor Rudy Jaramillo moved to approve. Councilor David Lopez seconds the motion, motion carried.

## ***INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:***

### ***CITY MANAGERS REPORT:***

City Managers report is attached hereto and made an integral part of these minutes by reference.

### ***COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL:***

**Councilor Rudy Jaramillo:** Congratulated Brenda on her achievement. As far as the light parade he heard a lot of positive comments and as large as it was there were a lot of people involved in it. Claudette good work on your efforts and those of the group, for helping us try to get the Bugg light display. It will be a good thing for Belen. He has seen the library, it is great. The Coffee Shop is nice and Hecho A Mano will benefit from it as will the City of Belen. It was his understanding that they are also going to serve prepackaged sandwiches. The Coffee Shop will be a good addition. School has started and there are a lot of teachers out and back on the road.

**Councilor Jeff Trembly:** He is excited about the Library. The Library project from start to finish was one of the fastest projects we as a City have done that he can remember. A lot of it was luck a lot of it was insight. That library has added to the aesthetics of that neighborhood. He has not been in that library yet but wants to see it completed. Beverly and her crew have also done a tremendous job. As far as the Bugg light, and if he were a betting man, with Mayor and Claudette at the meeting he does not see how we cannot get that display. He does not guarantee that we will get it but he does guarantee that we have the best shot for it. If anyone sees what the Mayor does to his house for Christmas and how he believes, or we would not have the electric light parade if it were not for Ronnie Torres, so when those things come to light there is no way we could not get it. 2008 is here kids are back at school before you know it.

**Mayor Ronnie Torres:** He had someone stop by the shop the other day and advised that she is always complaining about the police but this time she wanted the Mayor to know about the wonderful police department we have. Don't know what you did or did not do but the lady was happy and there was room full of people so that made it nice. Thanks to Claudette for the good job on the presentation on the Bugg light display we met with them and it was an intense meeting. They are particular on this display we will see what happens on Thursday. Congratulations to Brenda, who the Mayor nominated, she does such a good job through the year. When you see what happens at the different festivals it goes on so smoothly but you don't know how much work and determination it takes to get things to that point.

**Terese Ulivarri Mayor Pro-Tem:** She was meeting free this time around. She asked if there was anyway we could keep the star lit, the one on the water tower, all year round. Mayor Ronnie Torres advised he did not see a problem with that. Terese advised she would like that simply because we are starting to promote, follow the star and by keeping it lit may be something to consider. Hope everyone had a good Christmas and kudos to Toys for Tots. She got a lot of positive comments. Thanks to the staff of Parks and Recreation Department, they do a good job all year round, actually all our staff they hardly get recognized but they do a wonderful job.

**Councilor David Lopez:** Commented he went to the Multipurpose Park last week to take the kids to play and he noticed that there is prep for a lot of block work. Also the park is looking good the arroyos are being fixed that were damaged with the storm. The bridge project is also looking good. He heard some good comments on the Police Department on the Toys for Tots project that was a great project. Please thank your staff for all the hard work they do.

***ADJOURNMENT:***

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked for a motion to adjourn tonight's meeting.

Councilor David Lopez moved to adjourn this meeting. Councilor Jeff Trembly second the motion, motion carried.

ss/  
Ronnie Torres, Mayor

ATTEST:

ss/  
Sally G. Garley, City Manager